

STEP 1 CHECK THE BASICS

Tense changes in reported speech

1 Complete the sentences with one word in each space.

Judith: "I'm going to phone Mike now."
Judith said that she was going to phone Mike then.1 Pete: "I'll ask her out again tomorrow."
Pete said that he would ask her out again the next day.2 Mauro: "I went to a great restaurant yesterday."
Mauro said that he had been to a great restaurant the day before / previous day.3 Miriam: "We've never met before."
Miriam said that they had never met before.4 Svetlana: "I'm going out with my boyfriend this evening."
Svetlana said that she was going out with her boyfriend that evening.5 Jacob: "I work here."
Jacob said that he worked there.6 Andrea: "I don't like these jeans."
Andrea said that she didn't like those jeans.7 Zack: "I'm going to do the exam next week."
Zack said that he was going to do the exam the following week.

STEP 2 MOVE ON

Modal verbs in reported speech

2 Rewrite the sentences in direct speech. Use the words in the list.

must will can't had to

1 They said they had to leave early.

2 Nicky told me that she would phone Dan.
We must leave early, they said.3 Jack said he couldn't come to the beach.
"I'll phone Dan," Nicky told me.4 She told us that she had had to catch the bus.
"I had to catch the bus," she told us.

3 Rewrite the sentences in reported speech.

1 "You can stay longer if you like," she said.
She said I/we could stay longer if I/we liked.2 "I must be home by midnight," said Cinders.
Cinders said she had to be home by midnight.

3 "Nadal will probably win the tournament," said Manolo.

Manolo said Nadal would probably win the tournament.

4 "Everyone has to make an effort," said the captain.

The captain said everyone had to make an effort.

say and tell

4 Identify and correct the six incorrect sentences.

I said you to come tomorrow.

She told she was tired.

Jack will tell to us next week.

The teacher said to me to go home.

We told them not to be late.

Has Alan told the news to you?

She said that she couldn't remember my name.

1 I said told you to come tomorrow.

2 She told said she was tired.

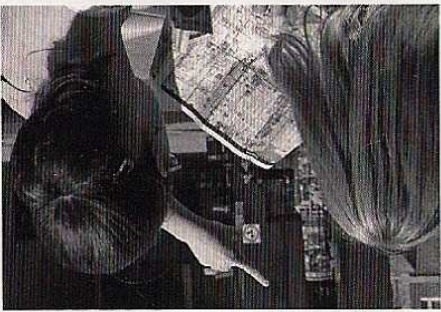
3 Jack will tell to us next week.

4 The teacher said to told me to go home.

5 Has Alan told you the news to told?

6 Say Tell me your telephone number.

5 Complete the sentences with the correct form of say or tell.



1 Can you tell me the way to the station?

2 She came across the room, smiled and said hello.

3 He gave me some advice and told me not to worry.

4 Have you told anyone about your new boyfriend?

5 Nat is saying that you stood him up outside the cinema.

6 She's crying! What did you say to her?

7 I thought I told you not to tell anyone my secret!

8 You said that she said that she loved you. That's what you told me!

Reported questions

6 Transform the reported questions into direct questions.

1 She asked me if I was German.

Are you German?

2 My friend wanted to know if I liked dancing.

Do you like dancing?

3 Tanya asked me what my email address was.

What's your email address?

4 Stefan wanted to know which bus I was going to catch.

Which bus are you going to catch?

5 They asked me if I had finished my project.

Have you finished your project?

6 Bruno wanted to know if the party would start early.

Will the party start early?

7 Holly asked Jeff who he was going to meet.

Who are you going to meet?

8 My parents wanted to know why I had arrived home so late.

Why did you arrive home so late?

7 Make the direct questions into reported questions.

1 "What's his phone number?" She wanted to know what his phone number was.

2 "Do you come here often?" He asked her if she went there often.

3 "Have you seen this film?" He wanted to know if he / she / they had seen that film.

4 "Why haven't you called me?" She asked him why he hadn't called her.

5 "Where will he be at 3 pm?" She wanted to know where he would be at 3 pm.

6 "Can you play the guitar?" She asked him if / whether he could play the guitar.

7 "When were they born?" She wanted to know when they were born.

8 "Are you going to buy a motorbike?" She asked him if / whether he was going to buy a motorbike.

STEP 3 CONSOLIDATE

8 Match the reporting verbs A-H to sentences 1-8. Then put the sentences in reported speech.

A advise B ask C complain D explain

E insist F order G promise H remind

1 "I'll give you the money next week," he said.
He promised he'd give me the money the following week.2 "Show me your identity card," said the policeman.
F The policeman ordered me to show him my identity card.3 "The service here is terrible," I said.
C I complained that the service there was terrible.4 "Remember, buy some coffee," my mum said.
H My mum reminded me to buy some coffee.5 "You should see the doctor," my friend said.
A My friend advised me that I should see the doctor.6 "You must visit us," said Giovanni.
E Giovanni insisted I go and visit them.7 "Is there a bank near here?" the stranger said.
B The stranger asked if / whether there was a bank near there.8 "I arrived late because of the traffic," she said.
D She explained that she'd arrived late because of the traffic.

9 Put the sentences into reported speech.

1 "I'm meeting my boyfriend tomorrow," said Jackie.
Jackie said she was meeting her boyfriend the next / following day.2 "I study here," said Jacob.
Jacob said he studied there.3 "When is the final exam?" the student asked the teacher.
The student asked the teacher when the final exam was.4 "We've already been here," Tom insisted.
Tom insisted they'd already been there.5 "Can you play the guitar?" Steve asked her.
Steve asked her if / whether she could play the guitar.6 "I'm late because of the traffic," she explained.
She explained that she was late because of the traffic.